

Ravalli County Commissioners
Page Gough, Airport Manager

July 10, 2007

RE: Ravalli County Airport

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Ravalli County Commissioners

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As per our discussion, here are our thoughts. We would like the Commissioners, the Airport Board and you as the Airport Manager to apply the rules and enforcement to all equally as directed by the FAA Grant Assurances. Further, the businesses operating to the public on the Ravalli County Airport represent this county to the public. They should act according to be ambassadors who reflecting a positive experience to those who visit our airport. We feel when this happens; the Ravalli County Airport could be an asset to the County once again. As you know, we filed and had a hearing with the FAA so that the airport and the users can move forward. The rules are clearly spelled out and appropriate conduct must exist. We would like to work with you instead of against you to once again have an airport where everyone is treated equally with common courtesy. There now is competition on the Ravalli County Airport. It is good for the consumer and it is encouraged by the FAA. It is time for each business to be allowed to do business in a safe and non-hostile environment. To do this, rules and enforcement must be the same across the board. The businesses must be required to conduct themselves in a proper and appropriate manner respecting the other businesses and users of the airport.

The following items have continued to exist since the FAA hearing and must be addressed:

- Aircraft parked outside of designated leased areas
- The taxi way in front of Northstar which the FAA designated as a active taxi way and can be used for loading and off loading only has been used for overnight aircraft parking
- Excessive vehicle parking on access roads and on non-leased property
- Continued unauthorized use of the Unicom and hand held radios for business purposes

More than these violations it is the behavior and conduct that most disturbs us. Northstar Aviation locked the doors on users of the airport. They failed to meet their responsibility guaranteed by the FAA Grant Assurances until the Airport Manager was called in after hours. They try to intimate our customers by standing and staring with arms folded in

close proximity while we conduct business. Northstars continues recording the Unicom for their future use as they did when they used it to initiate the prosecution of a couple of pilots. I know that there are a number of pilots that no longer use the Unicom because Northstar Records it. The Unicom is there for the safety of the pilots not for the benefit of Northstar Aviation. This conduct is unacceptable and creates a hazardous environment at the Ravalli County Airport. Finally, they placed security cameras facing our business. This is nothing more then intimidation to our customers. If they want to use cameras to secure their assets that is fine. But, if those cameras are placed there to watch our business or to intimidate our customers this will not go unanswered.

We are only asking for the Commissioners to get a handle on this. We know from experience that you have the power to do it. We were given three cease orders and a restraining order from the court to include potential revocation of our leases by the County Attorney over the past six months for so called rule violations and safety. I would expect the Commissioners to use the same level of enforcement against others in violation of the rules and inappropriate conduct at the Ravalli County Airport.

Dave Beckett

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dave Beckett', written in a cursive style.

Mark Fournier

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mark Fournier', written in a cursive style.